

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A protective animal collar assembly comprising:

- a)** A hollow, hemispherical member having equatorial and polar regions and an irregular opening therein extending from said polar region to near proximity with said equatorial region;
- b)** a visor member having a parabolic notch along one edge corresponding at least in part to a portion of said irregular opening, pivotally attached to said hemispherical member; and
- c)** a means for securing said visor in position relative to said hemispherical member.

2. The protective animal collar according to claim 1 wherein said visor member at least partially covers said irregular opening in said hemispherical member.

3. The protective animal collar according to claim 1 wherein said parabolic notch is disposed adjacent said polar region defining a parabolic opening between said visor member and said hemispherical member.

4. The protective animal collar according to claim 3 wherein said means for securing are hook and latch members strategically located adjacent said parabolic opening.

5. The protective animal collar according to claim 1 further comprises protective edge moldings.

5 6. The protective animal collar according to claim 1 further comprises a cylindrical ring member having a major diameter equivalent to that of said hemispherical member removably attached to said hemispherical member at said equatorial region.

10 7. The protective animal collar according to claim 1 further comprises a conical ring member having a minor diameter equivalent to that of said hemispherical member removably attached to said hemispherical member at said equatorial region.

15 8. The protective animal collar according to claim 6 wherein said visor member is pivotally retained by said cylindrical ring member.

9. The protective animal collar according to claim 7 wherein said visor member is pivotally retained by said conical ring member.

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10. A protective animal collar assembly comprising:

A hollow hemispherical member having a polar region and equatorial region defined by the major diameter, and an irregular shaped aperture, a portion of which is parabolic extending from said polar region to near proximity with said equatorial region, a visor having a parabolic notch centrally located along one edge pivotally attached to said hemispherical member at said major diameter said notch corresponding to the parabolic portion of said hemispherical member defining a parabolic opening there between, and a means for variably fixing said visor relative to said hemispherical member, said hemispherical member having means for attaching cylindrical and conical extension members.

11. The protective animal collar assembly according to claim **10** further including a cylindrical extension ring adaptively connected to said hemispherical member at said major diameter.

12. The protective animal collar assembly according to claim **10** further including a conical extension ring adaptively connected to said hemispherical member at said major diameter.

13. A method for attaching a protective, hemispheric, shell around the neck of an animal comprising the step of pivotally opening a visor-like member of said shell, thereby forming a parabolic opening through which an animal's head is

inserted and pivotally closing said visor, thus closing said parabolic opening around the animal's neck and securing said visor relative to said shell.

5 **14.** The method according to claim **13** wherein said method further includes the step of extending said shell by attaching a cylindrical ring member.

15. The method according to claim **13** wherein said method further includes the step of extending said shell by attaching a conical ring member.

10 **16.** The method according to claim **13** wherein said method further includes the step of removing said cylindrical ring member prior to attaching said conical ring member.

15 **17.** The protective animal collar according to claim **6** wherein said cylindrical member further comprises a beaded rim along the leading edge.

18 The protective animal collar according to claim **17** wherein said animal collar comprises said cylindrical member and a conical ring member having a minor diameter portion equivalent to said cylindrical member and further comprising a channel portion for making a snap connection with said beaded rim.

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19. The protective animal collar according to claim **18** wherein said conical ring member is slotted so as to allow passage of a portion of said visor member.